

LS 5-1963a

**OGC HAS  
REVIEWED.**

26 October 1955

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)**

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**SUBJECT:** [REDACTED] - Loss of Funds

**REFERENCE:** Memorandum to Deputy Director (Support) from  
Inspector General, dated August 26, 1955

1. To summarize the factual situation detailed in reference:

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[REDACTED] an employee of [REDACTED] Office of Operations, had in his possession an outstanding travel advance balance of \$129.18 in vouchered funds. He placed this money in cash in a sealed envelope addressed to the appropriate administrative officer and forwarded it through [REDACTED] channels. Checking shows the passage of the envelope to the [REDACTED] Message Center, Washington, where its receipt was recorded, but no trace of it was found thereafter. The Losses and Shortages Board has refused jurisdiction of the case since it involves vouchered funds. The reference is a referral to you from the Inspector General requesting you to authorize the payment out of unvouchered funds of the sum of \$129.18 in settlement of the outstanding balance in [REDACTED] travel advance account, under the authority granted you in Agency [REDACTED]

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2. It was the original opinion of this Office, upon reviewing the case, that [REDACTED] might be relieved under authority of 31 U.S.C. 32a-1, which authorizes the relief of "disbursing or other accountable officers" for physical losses of Government funds. Conversation with the General Accounting Office indicates that [REDACTED] is not the accountable officer here, a travel advance being considered a loan in the course of which the funds lose their identity as Government funds. Although he is responsible for the funds until repaid, the accountable officer is the disbursing officer who made the advance. GAO advises that in order to relieve [REDACTED] of responsibility it would be necessary to request the General Accounting Office to present a private bill to the Congress for his relief. Prior to submission of such a bill to the Congress, it is customary for the General Accounting Office to inquire in some detail into the factual circumstances of the case.

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3. If it is considered desirable, in the interests of security, to avoid investigation into [REDACTED] through procedures, there is no legal objection to your authorizing payment out of unvouchered funds to settle the outstanding balance in [REDACTED] travel advance account under the authority granted you in Agency [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

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4. In the alternative, if you feel that there are no security objections to presenting a private bill for the relief of [REDACTED], this Office stands ready to submit the case to the General Accounting Office for consideration. 25X1A9a

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[REDACTED]  
Office of General Counsel

OGC:RPB:mz

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